

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 07334 110822Z

ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-11 DODE-00 OES-09 L-03 IO-13

SSC-01 CPR-02 MCT-02 EB-08 /099 W

-----076972 110857Z /20

R 110701Z SEP 78

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4267

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CANBERRA 7334

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, AS

SUBJECT: RESPONSIBILITIES AT DFA SECRETARIAT LEVEL

1. WITH THE TRANSFER AUGUST 18 OF DFA DEPUTY SECRETARY PETER HENDERSON TO MELBOURNE, WHERE HE WILL BE HIGHEST RANKING GOVERNMENT-INDUSTRY EXCHANGE (WITH CON RIO TINTO ZINC OF AUSTRALIA UNTIL FEBRUARY 1979), NEW LINE-UP AT DEPUTY SECRETARY LEVEL OF DFA WILL BE ROY FERNANDEZ (WHO PHYSICALLY REPLACES HENDERSON ON A TEMPORARY BASIS) AND ALF PARSONS. PARSONS IS THE SENIOR DEPUTY SECRETARY, AND FILLS IN FOR SECRETARY NICK PARKINSON WHEN LATTER IS ABSENT.

2. ROY FERNANDEZ WILL SUPERVISE DFA DEPARTMENTS AS FOLLOWS: WESTERN; DEFENSE; NUCLEAR; LEGAL AND TREATIES; INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND CONSULAR; AND PROTOCOL. (PROTOCOL'S FUNCTIONS INCLUDE REPRESENTING DFA ON THE INTERDEPARTMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR TERRORISM AND VIOLENCE).

3. ALF PARSONS' RESPONSIBILITIES COVER THE REMAINING DFA DIVISIONS, NAMELY NORTH AND SOUTH ASIA; SOUTH EAST ASIA AND PAPUA NEW GUINEA (WHICH UNTIL HIS RECENT PROMOTION HE HEADED); ECONOMICS; PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND CULTURAL RELATIONS; AND MANAGEMENT AND FOREIGN SERVICE.

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4. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, FERNANDEZ MOST RECENTLY HEADED NUCLEAR DIVISION, BEFORE WHICH HE WAS IN CHARGE OF DEFENSE. AS A PRACTICAL MATTER FERNANDEZ HANDLED BOTH DIVISIONS DURING THIS PERIOD AS HIS SUPPOSED REPLACEMENT, M.E. LYONS, HAS BEEN TIED UP WITH THE TORRES STRAIT NEGOTIATIONS FOR THE ENTIRE TIME. FERNANDEZ, AN

EXTREMELY ABLE OFFICER, WAS FORMERLY IN WASHINGTON  
(1969-73) AS AUSTRALIAN DCM.  
ALSTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECRETARIAT, PERSONNEL MOVEMENTS  
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**Draft Date:** 11 sep 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978CANBER07334  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014